

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES & PUBLIC PROTECTION DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HOMELAND SECURITY

TO: State Agency Commissioners and State Agency Heads

FROM: James C. Rovella, Commissioner

Brenda M. Bergeron, Deputy Commissioner

William H. Turner, State Emergency Management Director

DATE: March 24, 2022

RE: 2022 Statewide Emergency Planning and Preparedness Initiative (EPPI)

State Agency Introduction

First, thank you for your ongoing commitment to emergency management and public safety. Over the last two years, we have worked together to face an unprecedented pandemic while also responding to major storms, flooding, and those inevitable smaller emergencies that take place almost every day. This year, we are convening a Governor's Emergency Planning and Preparedness Initiative (EPPI) Statewide Exercise, focusing on hurricane response: the tabletop exercise will take place on May 24, 2022, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Please share this memo with appropriate agency officials and other staff who would be involved in decision-making during an actual event.

The exercise is a joint initiative of the National Hurricane Center (NHC), in coordination with the National Weather Service (NWS), the Northeast River Forecast Center, as well as Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island. The exercise will test the capabilities of local, state, and federal agencies to respond to a major hurricane affecting New England. All hazards will be exercised, including strong winds, heavy rainfall, river, and coastal flooding.

The exercise will be delivered virtually via a dedicated website that will become active after May 2, 2022. We will be scheduling a State Agency Liaison and Task Force pre-exercise training before the exercise. Prior to May 24th, state agencies are strongly encouraged to: review the Governor's Executive Order 34 regarding the National Incident Management System and agency preparedness and response responsibilities; either virtually or actually convene agency Incident Management Teams, identifying new members as needed; review the State Response Framework for the agency's all-hazard roles and responsibilities; review and update as needed the agency Continuity of Operations Plans; review the State Agency Training and Exercise Plan.

More information will follow as we get closer to the exercise date. If you have any questions or if you require any additional information regarding the Governor's EPPI, please contact DEMHS via e-mail at demhs.eppi.questions@ct.gov.